

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present U.S. Patent application as amended herein. Claims 1-86 have been cancelled without prejudice. New claims 87-99 have been added. Therefore, claims 87-99 are pending.

Objection to the Specification – Title

The title of the invention was objected to as not descriptive. Applicants have amended the title to be more descriptive. Accordingly, Applicants request that the objection to the title be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections

Claims 1-86 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicant regards as the invention. Claims 1-86 are also rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,304,567 B1 issued to Rosenberg. Claims 1-86 have been cancelled without prejudice. Therefore, the claim rejections of claims 1-86 are moot. New claims 87-99 have been added.

Claim 87 recites the following:

assigning one or more segment IDs to one or more channels associated with one or more digitized segments of data;

determining a boundary number that represents the number of segment IDs to be aggregated into a first section and the number of corresponding digitized segments of data to be aggregated into a second section;

aggregating the determined boundary number of segment IDs into the first section, wherein the segment IDs share a destination node; and

aggregating the determined boundary number of digitized segments of data into the second section, wherein each aggregated digitized segment of data in the second section is associated with a segment ID in the first section.

Rosenberg discloses a communications system that multiplexes voice communications signals onto one or more transport level connections established through a packetized network, such as the Internet. Rosenberg does not disclose determining a boundary number that represents the number of segment IDs to be aggregated into a first section and the number of corresponding digitized segments of data to be aggregated into a second section, aggregating the determined boundary number of segment IDs into the first section, and aggregating the determined boundary number of digitized segments of data into the second section. These limitations are recited in claim 87. Therefore, Applicants submit that claim 87 is patentable over Rosenberg.

Claims 88-99 are dependent claims and distinguish for at least the same reasons as their independent base claim in addition to adding further limitations of their own. Therefore, Applicants submit that claims 88-99 are patentable over Rosenberg for at least the reasons set forth above.

Conclusion

In view of the amendments and remarks set forth above, Applicants submit that claims 87-99 are in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully solicited. The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is believed that such contact would further the examination of the present application.

Please charge any shortages and credit any overcharges to our Deposit Account number
02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,
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Date: 1/25/05

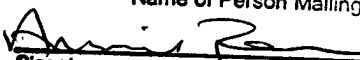

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